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pox. The boat was detained at Louisville, and Dr. McIntosh requested to make examination and vaccinate the crew. He vaccinated all of the crew he could find, but several hid away and were vaccinated here. Six of the cabin passengers left the boat and took a train to Cincinnati. The boat made two or three landings after leaving Louisville. The boat had a cargo of general merchandise and lumber. There were 26 passengers, none of whom had been exposed. Two of said passengers were vaccinated by request. There were 70, all told, in the crew, 23 of whom were vaccinated, as they showed no signs of previous vaccination. All were examined. As these roustabouts sleep on the lower deck without bedclothing, nothing was done in the way of disinfection except to wash down the decks with water. Two officers from the health office accompanied Acting Assistant Surgeon Stevenson and myself 10 miles down the river, where we met the *Speed*, and they expressed themselves as satisfied with what had been done. The boat was admitted on my certificate.

Very respectfully,

J. O. COBB,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Measures for the prevention of the spread of smallpox in Mobile.

MOBILE, ALA., April 8, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith letter of Dr. James A. Abrahams, health officer for Mobile, in which he asks the cooperation of the United States Marine-Hospital Service in preventing the further spread of smallpox in the city by vaccinating the crews of river steamers plying between this port and Montgomery, Ala.

Last week one new case occurred in the city, and on the 6th instant another case was discovered at Venetia, 9 miles distant, on the L. & N. R. R.; both were negroes. No cases have occurred among the roustabouts, and there have been but 4 admitted to the pesthouse, yet I would respectfully recommend that authority be given to cooperate with the local board of health as requested by Dr. Abrahams, to the end that there may be the least possible increase over the present small number. * * * At the request of their captains the crews of the U. S. revenue steamers *Seward*, *McLane*, and *Forward* have already been vaccinated.

Very respectfully,

E. K. SPRAGUE,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure.]

BOARD OF HEALTH, *Mobile, Ala.*, April 7, 1896.

Dr. E. K. SPRAGUE,

Assistant Surgeon, Marine-Hospital Service, Mobile, Ala.

DEAR DOCTOR: In view of the occurrence of cases of smallpox or varioloid near Montgomery, Ala., between which point and this city steamboats are constantly plying, the board of health requests that you have the crews and all persons on board river steamers coming to this city vaccinated. It is well known to you that the crews especially of such steamers are frequently carriers of contagious and infectious diseases. This board is using every endeavor to prevent smallpox gaining a foothold in this city, and ask your cooperation to the above extent.

Trusting that you concur in the opinion of this board that such vaccination is wise, and that you will at once order same performed, I am,

Yours, respectfully,

JAS. A. ABRAHAMS, M. D.,
Health Officer.